

B. Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for audibly annunciating at a device caller identification information transmitted over a ~~telephone~~ network, the information being transmitted in the form of a modulated signal to the device wherein the modulated signal is representative of the information, the apparatus comprising:

a receiver for capturing a ring signal and a modulated signal representative of the caller identification information transmitted over a ~~telephone~~ network ~~during an interval between the ring signal and a subsequent ring signal, the modulated signal comprising a stream of characters representative of the caller identification information;~~

a converter in communication with the receiver for converting the modulated signal into a stream of audible signals, wherein the converter processes the stream of characters in real-time as the characters are received from the network; and

a speaker in communication with the converter for producing audible sounds corresponding to the stream of audible signals representative of the information received over the ~~telephone~~ network.

2. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the information is transmitted and received during an interval between ringing signals transmitted over the ~~telephone~~ network.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a memory circuit in communication with the receiver for storing the information.

4. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a demodulator for demodulating the modulated signal received from the ~~telephone~~ network and generating therefrom a stream of characters representative of the information.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a processor for converting the modulated signal into a stream of characters representative of the information.
6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 5, further comprising a memory circuit in communication with the processor, wherein the processor stores the character stream in the memory circuit.
7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the modulated signal includes information identifying an originating telephone subscriber line, the information including at least one ~~being selected from the group consisting of~~ message type, message length, parameter type, parameter length, originating telephone number according to a directory listing, name associated with the originating telephone number according to the directory listing and a checksum.
8. (Currently Amended) A ~~telephone device~~ comprising:
an apparatus for audibly annunciating at a the device caller identification information transmitted over a ~~telephone~~ network, the information being transmitted in the form of a modulated signal to the device wherein the modulated signal is representative of the information, wherein the apparatus comprises:
a receiver for receiving a modulated signal representative of the caller identification information transmitted over a ~~telephone~~ network ~~during an interval between ringing signals, the modulated signal comprising a stream of characters representative of the caller identification information;~~
a converter in communication with the receiver for converting the modulated signal into a stream of audible signals, wherein the converter processes the stream of characters in real-time as the characters are received from the network; and

a speaker in communication with the converter for producing audible sounds corresponding to the stream of audible signals representative of the information received over the ~~telephone~~ network.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~telephone~~ device of claim 8, wherein the information is transmitted and received during an interval between ringing signals transmitted over the ~~telephone~~ network.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~telephone~~ device of claim 8, wherein the apparatus further comprises a memory circuit in communication with the receiver for storing the information.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~telephone~~ device of claim 8, wherein the apparatus further comprises a demodulator for demodulating the modulated signal received over the ~~telephone~~ network and generating therefrom a stream of characters representative of the information.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~telephone~~ device of claim 8, wherein the apparatus further comprises a processor for converting the modulated signal into a stream of characters representative of the information.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~telephone~~ device of claim 12, wherein the apparatus further comprises a memory circuit in communication with the processor, wherein the processor stores the character stream in the memory circuit.

14. (Currently amended) The device ~~telephone~~ of claim 8, wherein the modulated signal includes information identifying an originating ~~telephone~~ subscriber line, the information including at least one ~~being selected from the group consisting of~~ message type, message length, parameter type, parameter length, originating telephone number according to a directory listing,

name associated with the originating telephone number according to the directory listing and a checksum.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for audibly annunciating at a device caller identification information transmitted over a ~~telephone~~ network, the information being transmitted in the form of a modulated signal to the device wherein the modulated signal is representative of the information, the method comprising:

receiving a modulated signal representative of the caller identification information transmitted over a ~~telephone~~ network ~~during an interval between a ring signal and a subsequent ring signal~~, the modulated signal comprising a stream of characters representative of the caller identification information;

converting the modulated signal into a stream of audible signals;

processing the stream of characters in real-time as the characters are received from the network; and

providing the stream of audible signals to a speaker in communication with the converter for producing audible sounds corresponding to the stream of audible signals representative of the information received over the ~~telephone~~ network.

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein ~~receiving the modulated signal~~ further comprises receiving the information is transmitted and received during an interval between ringing signals transmitted over the ~~telephone~~ network.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising storing the information in a memory circuit in communication with the receiver.

18. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising demodulating the modulated signal received over the ~~telephone~~ network and generating therefrom a stream of characters representative of the information.

19. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising converting the modulated signal into a stream of characters representative of the information.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising storing the characters in a memory circuit in communication with a processor.

21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein receiving the modulated signal further comprises capturing information contained within the modulated signal identifying an originating ~~telephone~~ subscriber line, the information including at least one being selected from the group consisting of message type, message length, parameter type, parameter length, originating telephone number according to a directory listing, name associated with the originating telephone number according to the directory listing and a checksum.

22. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for audibly annunciating at a device caller identification information transmitted over a ~~telephone~~ network, the information being transmitted in the form of a modulated signal to the device wherein the modulated signal is representative of the information, the apparatus comprising:

means for capturing a ring signal and a modulated signal representative of the caller identification information transmitted over a ~~telephone~~ network ~~during an interval between the ring signal and a subsequent ring signal, the modulated signal comprising a stream of characters representative of the caller identification information;~~

means for converting the modulated signal into a stream of audible signals in communication with the receiver, wherein the means for converting processes the stream of characters in real-time as the characters are received from the network; and

means for producing audible sounds corresponding to the stream of audible signals representative of the information received over the ~~telephone~~ network in communication with the converter.

23. (Currently Amended) A ~~device~~ telephone comprising:

means for audibly annunciating at ~~thea~~ device caller identification information transmitted over a telephone network, the information being transmitted in the form of a modulated signal to the device wherein the modulated signal is representative of the information, wherein the means for audibly annunciating comprises:

means for receiving a modulated signal representative of the caller identification information transmitted over a ~~telephone~~-network during an interval between ringing signals, the modulated signal comprising a stream of characters representative of the caller identification information;

means for converting the modulated signal into a stream of audible signals in communication with the means for receiving, wherein the means for converting processes the stream of characters in real-time as the characters are received from the network and

means for producing audible sounds corresponding to the stream of audible signals representative of the information received over the ~~telephone~~ network in communication with the means for converting.

24. (Currently Amended) A system for audibly annunciating at a device caller identification information transmitted over a ~~telephone~~-network, the information being transmitted in the form of a modulated signal to the device wherein the modulated signal is representative of the information, the system comprising:

means for capturing at a receiver a ring signal from a telephone network;

means for receiving a modulated signal representative of the caller identification information transmitted over a telephone network during an interval between the ring signal and a subsequent ring signal, the modulated signal comprising a stream of characters representative of the caller identification information;

means for converting the modulated signal into a stream of audible signals, wherein the means for converting processes the stream of characters in real-time as the characters are received from the network; and

means for providing the stream of audible signals to a speaker in communication with the converter for producing audible sounds corresponding to the stream of audible signals representative of the information received over the telephone network.

25. (Currently Amended) ~~The An~~ apparatus of claim 1, for audibly announcing at a device ~~information transmitted over a telephone network, the information being transmitted in the form of a modulated signal to the device wherein the modulated signal is representative of the information, the apparatus comprising: wherein~~

~~a receiver for capturing a ring signal and a modulated signal representative of the caller identification information is transmitted over a telephone network during an interval between the ring signal and a subsequent ring signal, the receiver providing the subsequent ring signal to a telephone ringer after receiving the modulated signal;~~

~~a converter in communication with the receiver for converting the modulated signal into a stream of audible signals; and~~

~~a speaker in communication with the converter for producing audible sounds corresponding to the stream of audible signals representative of the information received over the telephone network.~~

26 - 31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended) A The device telephone of claim 8, wherein comprising:
~~an apparatus for audibly annunciating at a device information transmitted over a~~
~~telephone network, the information being transmitted in the form of a modulated signal to the~~
~~device wherein the modulated signal is representative of the information, wherein the apparatus~~
~~comprises:~~

~~a receiver for receiving a modulated signal representative of the caller~~
~~identification information is transmitted over a telephone network during an interval~~
~~between ringing signals, the receiver providing the subsequent ring signal to a telephone~~
~~ringer after receiving the modulated signal;~~

~~a converter in communication with the receiver for converting the modulated~~
~~signal into a stream of audible signals; and~~

~~a speaker in communication with the converter for producing audible sounds~~
~~corresponding to the stream of audible signals representative of the information received~~
~~over the telephone network.~~

33-38. (Cancelled)

39. (Currently Amended) A method for audibly annunciating at a device caller identification
information transmitted over a ~~telephone~~ network, the information being transmitted in the form
of a modulated signal to the device wherein the modulated signal is representative of the
information, the method comprising:

~~capturing at a receiver a ring signal from a telephone network;~~

~~receiving a modulated signal representative of caller identification information~~
~~transmitted over a telephone network during an interval between the ring signal and a subsequent~~
~~ring signal, the modulated signal comprising a stream of characters representative of the caller~~
~~identification information;~~

converting the modulated signal into a stream of audible signals;

processing the stream of characters in real-time as the characters are received from the network;

providing the stream of audible signals to a speaker in communication with the converter for producing audible sounds corresponding to the stream of audible signals representative of the information received over the ~~telephone~~-network; and

providing the subsequent ring signal to a ~~telephone~~-ringer after receiving the modulated signal.

40. (Currently amended) The method of claim 39, wherein ~~receiving the modulated signal further comprises receiving the information~~ is transmitted and received during an interval between ringing signals transmitted over the ~~telephone~~-network.

41. (Original) The method of claim 39, further comprising storing the information in a memory circuit in communication with the receiver.

42. (Currently amended) The method of claim 39, further comprising demodulating the modulated signal received over the ~~telephone~~ network and generating therefrom a stream of characters representative of the information.

43. (Original) The method of claim 39, further comprising converting the modulated signal into a stream of characters representative of the information.

44. (Original) The method of claim 43, further comprising storing the characters in a memory circuit in communication with a processor.

45. (Currently amended) The method of claim 39, wherein receiving the modulated signal further comprises capturing information contained within the modulated signal identifying an originating telephone subscriber line, the information including at least one ~~being selected from the group consisting of~~ message type, message length, parameter type, parameter length, originating telephone number according to a directory listing, name associated with the originating telephone number according to the directory listing and a checksum.